



Student/Resident Experiences And Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) Program Summary

SEARCH Program	North Dakota
Organization Type	University
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Website	www.Ruralhealth.edu
Project Service Focus	Urban/Central City, Rural
Length of Rotation	4 weeks
Disciplines eligible for rotation	Medicine, nursing (NPs), PA, SW, Psychology, dental
Project Infrastructure Focus	Training
Stipend/Living Cost	\$1000
General Description of Your Program	<p>Health care shortages not only affect the nation as a whole but are pressing issues in ND with 81% of our counties designated as primary care shortage areas, 94% as mental health shortage areas and 33% for oral health. Exacerbating this problem are survey data suggesting that approximately 27% of the state's physicians and 24% of the state's nurses are planning to retire by 2015. North Dakota faces current and emerging challenges related to features of both supply and demand of primary care providers, but also providers that support primary care. For example, ND's current supply of physicians, dentists, dental assistants, podiatrists, pharmacy technicians, emergency medical service providers and radiology technicians is below the per capita average. In the January 2008 CRH demand assessment, 267 vacancies were reported for physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, clinical laboratory science, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and x-ray for facilities throughout North Dakota. Forty percent of the openings were in primary care, with 27% of the vacancies for family medicine physicians in underserved areas. In a recent national study of medical school graduates and location of practice in 2005, only 11% of recent medical school graduates chose rural practice. The ND SEARCH program will</p>

	<p>provide interprofessional health profession rotations for students in medicine (medical students after one year of training), nurse practitioner/physician assistant studies, master's level social work students, doctoral level psychology students, and dental students in rural and underserved areas across ND. Although students can participate year around, most rotations occur during June, July and August. Out-of-state student rotations, including NHSC scholars) are also available. Rotations are 2-4 weeks with the exception of psychology students which have been 1 day/week for 6 months.</p>
<p>Activities undertaken by Students/Residents in Program</p>	<p>Site development activities will take place to ensure the health care facilities are prepared for the student rotations. Preceptors will be confirmed for participation in the program; students recruited and matched to sites. A strategy will be developed with the ND AHEC program to include students from different disciplines for participation in a rotation increasing the knowledge and breadth of the experience related to working as part of a health care team. Relationships will be built with academic institutions to include students from across ND into the program as well as the University of Minnesota dental program. Work will be conducted to engage other partners in working collaboratively to ensure the best program for our students, i.e., primary care association, oral health coalition, other federal projects with complementary goals. Committee meetings will be scheduled to facilitate the implementation of the ND SEARCH program. During rotations, students will engage in both clinical rotations and community projects. Additionally, students will complete weekly journals, a pre and post test, and documentation of the community project.</p>
<p>List of Sites Students can/will be rotating through</p>	<p>Potential sites include: Beulah, Bottineau, Bowman, Cando, Crosby, Hettinger, Northwood, Oakes, Park River, Watford City, and Wishek. Other sites can also be added.</p>